

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yutaka KATSUYAMA

Application No.: (Unassigned)

Group Art Unit: 2623

Filed: (Concurrently)

Examiner: A. Bhatnagar

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND PATTERN EXTRACTION APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

- 1a. Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. Copies of IDS citations.
- 1c. An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
- 1e. Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
- 1f. List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
- 1g. List of Additional Submitted Documents (ATTACHMENT 1(g), hereto).

2. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b):

(Check either Item 2a or 2b or 2c or 2d)

- 2a. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a Continued Prosecution Application under § 1.53(d);
- 2b. Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
- 2c. Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- 2d. Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.

3. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 2 above but before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, AND
(Check either Item 3a or 3b; Item 3b to be checked if any reference known for more than 3 months)
- 3a. The §1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; OR
3b. The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:
 enclosed.
 to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.
4. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR §1.97(d) after the period specified in paragraph 3 above, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee, AND
4a. The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; AND
4b. The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is:
 enclosed.
 to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.
5. Statement under § 1.97(e) (*applicable if Item 3a or Item 4a is checked*)
(Check either Item 5a or 5b)
- 5a. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), it is stated that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 5b. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2), it is stated that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
6. This is a continuation/divisional/continuation-in-part application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b).
(Check appropriate Items 6a and/or 6b)
- 6a. Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were previously cited in prior application Serial No. 09/358,380, filed on July 21, 1999, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, have been omitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
- 6b. Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were not previously cited in prior application Serial No. ___, filed on ___, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are provided herewith.

7. This is a continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114.
(Check either Item 7a or 7b)
- 7a. The Issue Fee has not been paid.
- 7b. A Petition to Withdraw from issue under 37 CFR § 1.313(c) is filed concurrently herewith or has been granted. A continuation/divisional application under 37 CFR § 1.53(d) or a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114, after payment of the Issue Fee, is proper in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.53(d)(1)(ii) or 37 CFR 1.114(a), respectively.
8. This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.
(Check either Item 8a or 8b)
- 8a. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on ___. A bona fide attempt was made to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98, but inadvertent omissions were made. These omissions have been corrected herein. Accordingly, additional time is requested so that this Supplemental IDS can be considered as if properly filed on ___.
- 8b. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed within one (1) month of the Notice under 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98, mailed ___.
9. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:
(Check appropriate Items 9a, 9b, 9c and/or 9d)
- 9a. satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP § 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, 8th Ed.)
- 9b. set forth in the application.
- 9c. satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
- 9d. enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
10. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

11. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 for this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Dated: 2/19/04
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Richard A. Gollhofer
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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 826.1554	APPLICATION NO. (Unassigned)
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Yutaka KATSUYAMA	
		FILING DATE (Concurrently)	GROUP ART UNIT 2623

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	5,912,994	06/15/99	Norton et al.	382	283	
	AB	6,115,494	09/05/00	Sonoda et al	382	165	
	AC	5,111,516	05/05/92	Nakano et al.	382	156	
	AD	6,272,238	08/07/01	Kugai	382	165	
	AE	5,504,846	04/02/96	Fisher	345	597	
	AF	5,418,865	05/23/95	Zheng et al.	382	199	
	AG	5,742,704	04/21/98	Suzuki et al.	382	176	
	AH	5,912,980	06/15/99	Hunke	382	103	
	AI	6,529,202	03/04/03	Wu	345	593	
	AJ	6,512,850	01/28/03	Yaung	382	225	
	AK	6,546,130	04/08/03	Inoue et al.	382	162	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AL	5-298443	11/12/93	Japan			Abst.

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)					TRANSLATION YES NO

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AM	5,130,791	07/17/92	Abe	358	518	
	AN	5,452,408	09/19/95	Westdijk et al.	345	589	
	AO	5,974,171	10/26/99	Hayashi et al.	382	162	
	AP	6,343,141	01/29/02	Okada et al	382	118	
	AQ	6,124,945	09/26/00	Ishihara et al.	358	1.9	
	AR	6,088,469	07/11/00	Fukumura et al.	382	103	
	AS	6,118,787	02/13/01	Ohmae et al.	382	165	
	AT	6,115,495	09/5/00	Tachikawa et al.	382	165	
	AU	6,369,916	04/09/02	Hirooka	358	462	
	AV	6,137,903	10/24/00	Dichter	382	162	
	AW	6,298,150	10/2/01	Sonoda et al	382	162	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)				TRANSLATION YES NO

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AX	5,974,228	10/26/99	Heitsch	395	109	
	AY	5,982,944	11/09/99	Vaidyanathan et al.			
	AZ	6,351,558	02/26/02	Kuwata			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)TRANSLATION
YES NO

BA	S. SENDA, et al., "A Method of Extraction of Character Patterns From a Color Image Based on the Uniformity of the Character Color of a String", Technical Report of IEICE (The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers), PRU94-29.		
BB	K. MATSUO, et al., "Extraction of Character Region From Color Document Images", The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, D-12-19.		
BC	K. MATSUO, et al., "Extraction of Characters String From Scene Image by Grayscale and Color Information", Technical Report of IEICE (The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers), PRU92-121.		
BD	B. UEBA, et al., "The Extraction of Character Images From Color Images Based on Processing of Color Contour Line", Technical Report of IEICE (The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers), PRU94-28.		

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